

I am a HAM Radio Licensee and as such am disturbed by yet another attempt to take away the freedom of the radio spectrum that the FCC was designed to protect. The FCC was not designed to protect revenue to companys. It was designed to keep the airwaves organized and allow companies that actually provide a service to the public to do so. These airwaves ARE the publics. Not the broadcasters that provide the service. They exist to serve us not the other way around. I have been not so patiently waiting for XM to offer local weather and traffic for the Minneapolis MN area for quite some time. The broadcast stations that provide this information are hard to hear on my commute from western Wisconsin and do so bad a job of summing up traffic I wonder why they bother. With numerous traffic problems every weekday, the broadcast stations mention 3 of the major roadways for about 15 seconds. They spend at least another 15 seconds pushing the sponser then move on to more commercials. While I understand they need to make money to stay on the air, let us choose weather we want advertisers pay for us to hear thier messages and not much more or if we want to pay to hear traffic that matters. I have been a loyal XM listener for about a year becuae it is worth it to me to pay a little each month to actually hear the music I want instead of wading through a bunch of crap to hear a couple of songs an hour. PLEASE OPPOSE NAB's petition 04-160!!!! If broadcasters were so in tune to what thier "customers" wanted why would XM alone have 1.7 million PAYING customers along with advertisers? Let alone what SIRUS radio has. If broadcasters are afraid of losing revenue why don't they study XM and actually change the way they do business. The recording industry had to. Don't let them bully us in what we are allowed to hear and how.